

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 04250 260309Z  
ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05  
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01  
INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01 FEA-01 /128 W  
-----260311Z 119303 /70

P R 260245Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6431  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 4250

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PLOS, JA  
SUBJECT: JAPAN TO ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ESTABLISH 200 MILE  
EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE

1. DURING MARCH 25 LOS CONSULTATIONS, FONOFF LOS  
DEPUTY DIRGEN IGUCHI INFORMED AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON  
THAT FOLLOWING MARCH 29 CABINET MEETING, GOJ WOULD  
ANNOUNCE INTENTION TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR  
ESTABLISHMENT OF 200 MILE EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE.  
CABINET WOULD LEAVE OPEN, HOWEVER, PRECISE DETAILS  
AND TIMING OF SUCH LEGISLATION. IGUCHI EXPLAINED THAT  
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOJ'S "DECISION IN PRINCIPLE"  
TO SEEK EFZ WOULD REPRESENT EFFORT TO GAIN BADLY-NEEDED  
LEVERAGE IN CURRENT FISHING NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIETS.  
EVENTUAL SUBMISSION OF EFZ LEGISLATION WOULD CERTAINLY  
COME AFTER LOS SUMMER SESSION AND WOULD BE SHAPED BY  
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 04250 260309Z

RESULTS ACHIEVED THERE.

2. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, FONOFF  
NORTHEAST ASIA DEPDIR KAWASHIMA CONFIRMED THAT  
IMPETUS FOR EFZ ANNOUNCEMENT HAD COME FROM  
AGRICULTURE-FORESTRY MINISTER SUZUKI, WHO HAD EARLIER  
PUSHED THROUGH EXTENSION OF JAPANESE TERRITORIAL

WATERS TO 12 MILES. HE SAID THAT GOJ WOULD INFORM BOTH PRC AND ROK THAT THEIR FISHING OPERATIONS WOULD NOT IN FACT BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY ESTABLISHMENT OF JAPANESE EFZ. GIVEN RELATIVELY SMALL CHINESE CATCH IN WATERS IN QUESTION, KAWASHIMA BELIEVED THAT PROBLEMS WITH PRC WOULD BE MANAGEABLE. JAPANESE 200 MILE EFZ, HOWEVER, WOULD RESURRECT CONTENTIOUS TERRITORIAL DISPUTES, SUCH AS TAKESHIMA/TOK TO ISLAND, WITH SOUTH KOREANS. HE FEARED THAT JAPANESE ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD PUSH ROK INTO PROMPTLY DECLARING ITS OWN 200 MILE ZONE. TAKEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH POSSIBILITY THAT LONG-DELAYED KOREAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT WOULD NOT GAIN DIET RATIFICATION THIS SPRING, KAWASHIMA PREDICTED INCREASED PUBLIC FRICTION BETWEEN JAPAN AND ROK ON QUESTION OF MARITIME BOUNDARIES.  
BUTTON

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW OF THE SEA, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JAPAN TO ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ESTABLISH 200 MILE EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE  
**TAGS:** PLOS, JA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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